

Time Lines

The Manitoba Historical Society Newsletter

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42nd Annual Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner

The Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner will be held at 6:00 pm on Saturday, 20 January 2007 at the historic Fort Garry Hotel. The dinner is an important fundraising event of the Society. Further details will be in the next issue of *Time Lines*.

President's Message

The history of the Manitoba Historical Society, originally when founded in 1879 the Manitoba Historical and Scientific Society, is an interesting one. At the outset, the Society was responsible for much of the cultural and intellectual activity of the city and province, including its infrastructure. The MHS operated the major library in the city; it was responsible for the first archives in the province; its lectures and publications were important components of public intellectual life and publishing in the early years of the province. What the MHS might have become is evidenced by the Minnesota Historical Society, which still today operates the Minnesota State Archives, a major library, and a major press publishing chiefly historical books out of its own building in downtown St. Paul. The Minnesota society is still a major historical player in the state. In contrast, the Manitoba Historical Society has over the past century or more surrendered its early position of importance to a variety of

new institutions, most of them publicly funded and managed by the city and the province. Manitoba's Historic Resources branch is an important part of the modern Manitoba government, while the Manitoba Historical Society has increasingly found itself marginalized, under-funded and under-supported. More importantly, although related to its marginality, the Society no longer plays a major role in the heritage life of the province. Remnant memories of that earlier life occasionally surface, and the MHS still has some cachet as a heritage preserver and supporter, sometimes undeserved. The public still turns to the MHS for opinions and pronouncements on heritage matters, although most citizens of the province do not appreciate that the Society's chief institutional role is as administrator of Dalnavert and Ross House rather than as keeper of the heritage conscience of Manitoba.

Curiously enough, we are still having heritage functions gradually eroded away by institutions with more money and more power. Once the MHS was the major institution defending the built heritage of Winnipeg. Now we have Heritage Winnipeg. Until a few years ago, the Margaret McWilliams medals were the only important literary prizes awarded within the



The Minnesota Historical Society's grand History Center in St. Paul houses its museum, archives, library, and offices. The MHS was established in 1849, nine years before Minnesota gained statehood, making it one of the USA's oldest.

province. Today, there is a major programme of literary awards that has dwarfed the McWilliams medals and pushed them to the outside. Once upon a time, the designation of Centennial Farms (and the awarding of plaques) was the sole function of the MHS. A few years ago, the province moved into the Heritage Farms business when we temporarily faltered, building on our programme. We have managed to remain active in Centennial Farms designations, but much of the importance of what we do for the agricultural community has been removed, and we have been unable to find a sponsor for the Centennial Farms programme. Until a couple of years ago, our Young Historians awards programme was virtually the only way in which pre-university historical scholarship could be formally recognized. The recent institution of Heritage Fairs for grades 1 to 9, funded by Historica, a national organization with considerable money to spend, has greatly reduced the importance of the Young Historians operation for students in those grades. The Society has recently decided to concentrate on Young Historians in grades 10 to 12, and will probably fill a niche here until somebody comes along to fill it.

This rehearsal of lost functions is important in several respects. For one thing, it makes it considerably more difficult to claim that we have a critical heritage role to play in the province. In the second place, it implies that one of our remaining responsibilities may well be to fill heritage niches ignored by other institutions—until they discover them to be of importance. This is at least in part how we ended up with Dalnavert. One of the problems with niche-filling, of course, is that it does not often lead to a particularly high profile for the MHS, or necessarily much satisfaction for the Society's members. At the same time, some of the niches we fill clearly are important. The historical journal we publish has no real counterpart anywhere in the province, and our web site seems well appreciated in the general community. We are presently surveying our membership to ascertain which of our programmes are most important to them and provide them with the most satisfaction. Stay tuned for the results of that survey.

J. M. Bumsted
President

Police Museum Tour

MHS members toured the Winnipeg Police Museum at the Winnipeg Police Academy at 130



Police Museum curator Jack Templeman (right) demonstrates a wrist restraint to MHS Councillor Carol Scott.



MHS members toured the Winnipeg Police Museum, which was profiled in the June 2006 issue of *Manitoba History* in an article on the Manitoba Provincial Police.

Allard Street in St. James on 14 October. The tour was conducted by the museum curator, retired police officer Jack Templeman. Among the artefacts shown were handcuffs, guns, body armour, a callbox, a jail cell, a beautifully restored paddy wagon, and motorcycles. There were special displays about the Winnipeg General Strike, and the capture of "Strangler" Nelson. There was reference to the history of the police force, the amalgamation of suburban forces as Unicity developed, and the changing role of women in the force.

The Police Museum is open weekdays from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, except holidays. Tours are available by appointment. Phone (204) 986-3976. There is no entry fee but donations are welcome.

Manitoba Historical Society Young Historian Awards Recipients

The MHS Young Historians Awards listed below will be presented on Sunday, 12 November at Grant Park High School Auditorium, 450 Nathaniel Street (next to the Grant Park Shopping Centre) in Winnipeg at 2:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend the ceremony and reception to follow.

Level A: Grades 4 to 6

Family History

Ashley Saulog, "My Family History" Holy Ghost School (grade 6), Teacher: Laura Gentile, *Honourable Mention*.

Historical Fiction

Natalie Wright, "Eternal Youth" Kirkaldy Heights School (grade 6), Brandon, Teacher: Mrs. B. Miller, *First Prize*.

Research Papers

Kaitlin Robinson, "The Boundary Trail" Balmoral Hall (grade 6), Teacher: Heather Naughten, *First Prize*.

Leanne King, "The Manitoba Legislative Building" Balmoral Hall (grade 6), Teacher: Heather Naughten, *Second Prize*.

Paige Nuttall, "The 1950 Winnipeg Flood" Balmoral Hall (grade 6), Teacher: Heather Naughten, *Third Prize*.

John Buksowicz, "Louis Riel – Hero or Criminal" Holy Ghost School (Senior 1), Teacher: Laura Gentile, *Honourable Mention*.

Level B Grades 7 to 9

Family History

Tyler Peterson, "In Memory of Bethlehem Memorial Garden" John Taylor Collegiate (Senior 1), Teacher: Elsebeth Hansen-Kriening, *First Prize*.

Projects

Tyler Peterson, "In Memory of Bethlehem Memorial Garden" John Taylor Collegiate (Senior 1), Teacher: Elsebeth Hansen-Kriening, *First Prize*.

Level C Grades 10 to 12

Family History

Kate Langrell, "My Family and the German Russian Immigration to Manitoba" Balmoral Hall (Senior 3), Teacher: Lois McGill Horn, *First Prize*.

Julie Klein, "From Poland to Manitoba" Balmoral Hall (Senior 3), Teacher: Teresa Friesen, *Second Prize*.

Amy Pasternak, "We're All Here Because I Lost an Eye" West Kildonan Collegiate (Senior 3), Teacher: Tom Schmidt, *Third Prize*.

Historical Fiction

Robin Jacuzzi, "Les Soeurs de Miséricorde" Balmoral Hall (Senior 3), Teacher: Lois McGill Horn, *First Prize*.

Kelsey Vossen, "Journey to the Forks" Balmoral Hall (Senior 3), Teacher: Teresa Friesen, *Second Prize*.

Project

Nicole McLeod, "Prairie Monuments [Oakville]" Portage Collegiate Institute (Senior 4), Teacher: James Kostuchuk, *First Prize*.

Adrien Guenette, "Winnipeg Downtown: Interactive Game" St. Paul's High School (Senior 3), Teacher: Mr. Boulet, *Second Prize*.

Research Paper

Stephanie Harland, "Why did so many Poles immigrate to Manitoba 1945 - 1960?" Silver Heights Collegiate (Senior 4), Teacher: Ivano Buccini, *First Prize*.

Emilie Cook, "Manitoba's 'Iron Age'" St. Mary's Academy (Senior 3), Teacher: Mr. Swirsky, *Second Prize*.

Joe Wasylycia-Leis, "Stand Together: The Winnipeg General Strike" Gordon Bell High School (Senior 3), Teacher: Prema Bursa, *Third Prize*.

Dr. Edward C. Shaw Award

Nicole McLeod, "Prairie Monuments [Oakville]" Portage Collegiate Institute (Senior 4), Teacher: James Kostuchuk.



Some displays at last year's Young Historians ceremony.

Historic Preservation

Developments along Waterfront Drive have been much touted in the news lately but those are not the only properties receiving attention in the downtown and Exchange area. If you have been passing by the Union Bank Building you will have noticed the scaffolding that wraps around the north side. It received \$1 million through the Commercial Heritage Properties Incentive Fund for work on the exterior and to a much lesser degree on the interior. On Portage Avenue the Oldfield, Kirby and Gardner building also benefited from this Fund. The Commercial Heritage Properties Incentive Fund is intended to stimulate the preservation and rehabilitation of historic property to a point where they can be brought back to life and once again commercial viability.

Members of the Society's Historic Preservation Committee have continued to present the North Point Douglas Walking Tour that they first unveiled in 2005. On 13 August, the Manitoba Naturalists Society took the tour then, on 30 August, a group from Creative Retirement toured through North Point Douglas. If



A group gathers at Ross House Museum in preparation for a walking tour of historic North Point Douglas.

you belong to a group that would like to do the tour, call the MHS office or Carl James at 204-631-5971.

Some people prefer to do walking tour on their own. If so, the North Point Douglas Walking Tour is now available on the MHS web site where in the near future you will be able to download the tour information. It is listed along with a number of other tours of Manitoba localities.



The Union Bank Building on Main Street, Winnipeg, before renovations began in 2006.

Manitoba Historical Walking Tours

Over the years, the MHS has sponsored the development of walking tours for various parts of the province. Many of these are now available on the MHS web site:

www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/features/walkingtours/index.shtml

Celebrating the Year of the War Bride

After the second World War, 48,000 women followed their Canadian servicemen husbands from Europe to Canada in hopes of starting a new life. If you are a war bride or know of someone who is, Age & Opportunity would like to invite you to come celebrate the Year of the War Bride by attending the **War Bride Tea** on Friday, 17 November 2006, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at the Masonic Memorial Temple, 420 Corydon Avenue. Complimentary admission to all war brides; \$10 admission for all companions. Space is limited. Traditional High Tea menu will be served. Entertainment will be provided. Please RSVP to Shannon by calling (204) 956-6440 before 3 November.

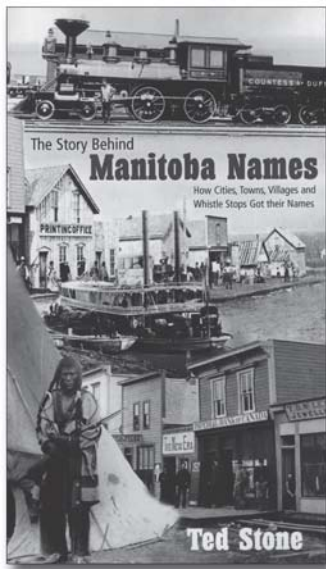
New Books

Going Downtown: A History of Winnipeg's Portage Avenue by Ross Gourluck is illustrated with more than 400 photos (most of them never published) and packed with intriguing details of the people and of the buildings, shops, restaurants, and theatres that lined Portage Avenue and the neighbouring streets over the years. It is described as "a nostalgic celebration of the glory days of 'the Avenue' and an examination of its sad decline and the future prospects."

St. John's College and the Birth of Education in Western Canada by historian Jack Bumsted kicks off the 140th anniversary of St. John's College, one of the oldest educational institutions in western Canada, its roots going back to the 1850s. For much of its 150 year history St. John's was closely connected with Manitoba's Anglo Celtic financial and political elite, and often it shared both the strengths and shortcomings of that group. The book is "a fascinating history of the birth and growth of post-secondary education in western Canada."

Book Review

Ted Stone, *The Story Behind Manitoba Names: How Cities, Towns, Villages and Whistle Stops Got Their Names*. Calgary: Red Deer Press, 2006, 264 pages. ISBN: 0889953414, \$19.95 (paperback).



My guess is that this little book was designed to be stowed in the glove compartment of your car, ready for use during trips in the countryside. It contains hundreds of short descriptions of the basis for the names of towns around the province, along with a collection of historical photographs as well as modern photographs taken by author Ted Stone. Most of the

entries are for existing places although a few ghost towns that are nothing more than road signs along the highway are also included. An appendix contains a bibliography and lists of towns named for specific

people (e.g., Boissevain), towns named for other places (e.g., Notre Dame de Lourdes), descriptive names (Oak Bluff), names of aboriginal origin (Wasagaming), names from other languages (Komarno), names commemorating a concept, incident or event (Norway House), literary, mythological or religious names (Flin Flon), and promotional, manufactured or hybrid names (Dominion City). Brief descriptions of the location of each place, relative to some well-known center, are given although "GPS junkies" like me might have liked such specific location data as latitude and longitude. Most but not all of the entries are for places along highways; Stone seems especially taken with the Hudson Bay railway route, for he includes several of its stops here. A very long entry (two pages compared to a short paragraph for most places) is included for Amery—a rail stop about 250 kilometers south of Churchill—that provides much of the background for the railway's construction.

The difficulty in writing about the basis for place names is they are often subject to speculation because no one thought to record the rationale at the time, and it has been long since forgotten. In those cases, Stone offers possibilities but he seems to come down in favor of dramatic alternatives. For instance, he describes as "most appealing" the local legend that Ninette was named by settler J. H. McLean in response to the plea of an anguished father whose daughter Antoinette had just died. He is less enthusiastic for a version that suggests McLean named the town for a saloon waitress.

Stone admits that this is not the first book in this genre, being preceded by Robert Douglas' *Place Names of Manitoba* (1933), J. B. Rudnycky's *Manitoba Mosaic of Place Names* (1970), Penny Ham's *Place Names of Manitoba* (1980), and the provincial government's encyclopedic *Geographical Names of Manitoba* (2000). While clearly more up-to-date than the first three, this book is far less inclusive than the last, which includes the names of landmarks, lakes and other non-town places too. Most of Stone's entries follow the story in the province's book closely. One might ask, therefore, why another book was needed? It seems to be aimed at those wanting an amusingly written and portable version rather than the extensively referenced, terse, thick (and therefore much less portable) version from the government.

I took this book on a drive up the west side of Manitoba a few weeks ago and read entries to my car-mates. Despite having little interest in Manitoba history, they found Stone's storytelling an interesting

distraction from the monotony of the road. Our driver could not take his eyes off the road to look at the photographs but, frankly, he would not have learned much by doing so. Most of them shed no light on the town's name and are not especially interesting. The entry for Belmont, for example, includes an obviously misdated photo captioned "Jams and jellies on display at Belmont fair about 1820." Later, I cross-checked a few entries with their counterpart in the provincial book. I found only a few minor errors, such as Stone's statement that Lockport was named for the lock and dam on the Red River built in 1902. In fact, the structure opened in 1910 and the error seems to have arisen from his misreading of text in the provincial book. By and large, I think Stone's book would be a worthwhile addition to my already stuffed glove compartment. Those wanting more thorough treatment would probably be better served by the government's alternative. Both books are available at the Grant Park location of McNally-Robinson Booksellers.

Gordon Goldsborough

Dalnavert

Charles Wheeler: A Gentleman of the Old School

Our primary exhibit for the year was officially unveiled on Sunday, 14 May, in conjunction with Doors Open Winnipeg. Charles H. Wheeler, who designed Dalnavert for the Macdonald family in 1895, was one of the most prominent architects of his time, as well as a noted choirmaster and music/theatre critic. The thirty-one images in the exhibit were compiled by Giles Bugailiskis, Senior Planner, Heritage, for the City of Winnipeg and an acknowledged Wheeler expert. Wheeler's designs



Charles H. Wheeler (1838-1917), architect and theatre critic, will be profiled in Giles Bugailiskis' article in the February 2007 issue of *Manitoba History*.



MHS President Jack Bumsted (left) discusses the legacy of Charles Wheeler with Giles Bugailiskis.

included the beautiful Holy Trinity Anglican Church (a National Historic Site) and the Peck, Galt and Senator Sanford Warehouses. He also served as consulting architect on the "gingerbread" style City Hall. Please see the exhibit brochure at Dalnavert for details.

Giles Bugailiskis gave an illustrated lecture on Wheeler at Dalnavert on 18 September.



Giles Bugailiskis (right) with Margo Foxford and MHS Past President Gordon Goldsborough at the Wheeler presentation at Dalnavert on 18 September.



The Dalnavert Visitors' Centre was busy hosting a tea lunch on 21 September.

"Tea and Your Teapots"

A tea lunch on 21 September attracted a full house to Dalnavert Visitors Centre. The event coincided with the opening in the display cases of a historical exhibition on tea drinking. We thank Kathleen Campbell for her efforts and creativity.

Bob Krul from Cordelia Bean supplied wonderful tea and gave an informative and interesting presentation on the history of tea internationally and the new culture and changing habits of tea drinking. Jean Smellie spoke on afternoon tea in England and recalled some of her own experiences. Judy McPherson and a friend from the Manitoba Living History Society wore and displayed beautiful examples of their needlework.

It was delightful to see ladies from five to ninety-seven so appropriately attired enjoying themselves. Many brought their favourite teapots and their personal stories. There were winners in various categories including a five year old who brought her grandmother's teapot that had been a wedding present.



Bob Krul spoke on tea history.

Two ladies from Germany and others toured the museum itself and were quite in awe to see such a well restored and appointed home.

A frequent comment made as the ladies were leaving the tea lunch was "When is the next one?"

The Dalnavert Visitors Centre is becoming a popular place in downtown Winnipeg. There are auditorium rentals for an increasing number of receptions, weddings and conferences and our gift shop area has some wonderful new gift items for Christmas shoppers.

In the Gift Shop you will find exceptional classics for the home and tabletop: hand fashioned porcelains and pottery, fine crystal glassware, trifle bowls, decanters and antique lamps, teas, teapots and accessories; dream pieces: music boxes of polished mahogany or fine porcelain, soft velvet Victorian style hand bags, sterling antique bracelet, other bracelets, rings and neckpieces; unique personals: body butter from the Rocky Mountain Soap Co., and Batik scarves made by Karen Zarelski-Friesen. For the children there are cuddly plush toys and teddy bears, and interesting and educational books, games, toys and puzzles. The shop features Christmas items as well.



Jean Smellie spoke on afternoon teas in England.



Upcoming Events at Dalnavert:

Saturday, 18 November, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Fall Tea and Fashion Show. Joint event with the Manitoba Living History Society. The Manitoba Living History Society will model winter fashions from the days of the Selkirk settlers to Victorian times. A light luncheon will be served and guests can take tours of the Museum for only \$2.50 per person. Tickets \$15.

Saturday, 25 November, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Heritage Needle Arts Fair. This is a unique opportunity to purchase quality items produced by members of the Winnipeg Embroiderers Guild. Admission to the fair is free. Museum admission is half price.

Saturday, 2 December, Noon to 5:00 pm

Official unveiling of the house, beautifully decorated for a Victorian Christmas. Complimentary holiday treats—apple/cranberry punch, shortbread and fruitcake—will be served. Regular museum admission applies.

Wednesday, 6 December, 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm

Learn the traditions surrounding the most important season in the Scottish Calendar, including festive Scottish dances. The evening will feature holiday foods and entertainment by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. Mini-tours of the museum will be offered as well. The evening is a joint presentation of the School of Scottish Arts and Dalnavert Museum. Tickets are \$15.

**18th Annual Presentation of
Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol**

15, 16, 17, 20, 21 & 22 December, 7:30 pm

Experience the magic of a Christmas past as actor Richard Hurst brings this beloved tale to life. Savour the readings in the comfort of our new, fully accessible Visitors' Centre and stay for light refreshments after the show. Doors open at 6:15 pm so visitors can view the museum decked out in all its Christmas finery and listen to holiday carols performed by the Potpourri singers. Tickets are \$15.

Heritage News

The Fort Garry Historical Society has available for purchase a DVD about the historic houses at the St. Norbert Provincial Heritage Park. Running about 30 minutes, the video shows architectural and restoration features about the Bohemier, Turenne and Delorme houses. To order the DVD, "19th Century Pioneer Homes", contact the Fort Garry Historical Society, Box 152, St. Norbert P.O., Winnipeg MB R3V 1L6 or call them at (204) 284-6567. Cost of the DVD is \$20.00 plus \$5.00 postage and handling.

The Fort Garry Historical Society will hold its Annual Luncheon and General Meeting on Saturday,

18 November 2006 at the Holiday Inn South on Pembina Highway, beginning at 11:30 am. All are welcome to attend. The speakers for the luncheon will be representatives from some other small historical societies so that we can discuss common problems. For more information please contact Kathy Stokes at bkstokes@mts.net.

Heritage Winnipeg is pleased to announce that its executive director Cindy Tugwell has recently been elected the Manitoba Governor for Heritage Canada. The appointment was announced at the Heritage Canada conference in Ottawa on 12-14 October. Ms. Tugwell presented a paper at this conference.

The St. Vital Historical Society opened its new centre in the St. Vital Fire Hall, 600 St. Mary's Road on 30 September. Refreshments and entertainment were provided nearby at St. Mary's United Church.

The Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada and The Mennonite Historical Society held a lecture, "More than Just Business - An Historical Overview of Jewish-Mennonite Relations in Winkler", by Dr. Hans Werner, Department of History, University of Winnipeg. After the lecture there was a discussion on the Jews and Mennonites of Winkler by Harold Buchwald C.M. Q.C. LL.D. and Dr. John Friesen. The lecture took place on 10 October at the Berney Theatre on the Asper Jewish Community Campus.

Dr. Werner's major study, *Living Between Two Worlds: a History of Winkler*, based on extensive archival research, was published earlier this year. Harold Buchwald, active in the Jewish and broader communities in various cultural and educational spheres, spearheaded the establishment of a commemorative plaque honouring the Jewish settlers and pioneers of Winkler. Dr. Friesen is a retired Professor of Church history and Mennonite history at Canadian Mennonite University and author of a soon-to-be-released book on Mennonites in Manitoba.

A tour of historic houses was part of the *Hot Spot Festival* in Gretna on 10 September. Four homes were toured. Individual homeowners did their own research to provide information and stories about the houses.

The southwest branch of the **Manitoba Genealogical Society** in Neepawa has opened its library in the basement of Knox United Church. The library is open on Mondays from 2:00 to 4:00 pm and Thursdays from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Non-branch



Dr. Nolan Reilly, history professor at the University of Winnipeg and Associate Editor of *Manitoba History*, along with local historian Roz Usiskin, led a mid-September bus tour of sites relating to the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike and the Jewish North End on behalf of the Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada.

members pay a fee of \$5 for library visits. The library contains archival materials and books that would be helpful to people tracing their family history.

The **Minnedosa Town Council** has approved the moving of a historic pump house that once sat at the corner of 2nd Avenue and 4th Street NE when it pumped water to the CPR yard and was linked to fire hydrants in the town. The new location will be on the Minnedosa Heritage Village grounds. The pump house will be set on a concrete foundation behind the hydro building on the site of a similar pump house. Moving costs will be covered by the Minnedosa and District Heritage Foundation.

Morden hosted the **14th annual Community Heritage Manitoba** conference on 21-22 October. Community Heritage Manitoba is a province-wide association of local municipal heritage advisory committees. Invitations were also sent to heritage-related groups and professionals. The mission of the

organization is to support heritage advisory committees in their efforts to identify, protect and interpret the heritage of their communities. The theme of this year's conference was "Opportunity Knocks – Make the Most of What You've Got!" Experts from a variety of fields advised on how to capitalize on heritage opportunities in their communities.

The *Morden Times* reports a 35% increase in visitors at the **Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre** on the lower level of the Morden Recreation centre. A 43-foot long mosasaur is featured in the gallery along with new murals and sound effects that create the feeling of being in the undersea world of monster reptiles, fish and other creatures from the late Cretaceous period over 80 million years ago. More volunteers are needed to be tour guides or to help with basic maintenance or cleaning. Drop in, call (204) 822-3406, email info@discoverfossils.com, or check out the web page www.discoverfossils.com.

The *Dauphin Herald* reports that **Fort Dauphin Museum** was awarded a heritage grant for \$4,580 from Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism to digitize its collections records. The grant sponsored a summer staff member to input information into museum software known as "Past Perfect." All information and photos will be easily accessible on one database when the project is completed in a few years.

Work has begun on restoring the **historic CNR Station in Carman**. Financial support has come from businesses, individuals, and a raffle. More fundraising is required to finish the project. The station will be the new home of the Golden Prairie Arts Council that will have an art gallery and concert facilities.

At the **Manitoba Museum** see "Portraits of the North" in Alloway Hall. Gerald Kuehl's pencil portraits are so realistic that they are often mistaken for photographs. There are thirty portraits of elders in the exhibit that runs to 7 January 2007. The portraits are a labour of love for the artist who spends 75 to 100 hours capturing each elder's likeness.

The *Daily Graphic* reports on heritage news from **Portage la Prairie**. Barry Bills, chair of the **Portage la Prairie Heritage Advisory Committee**, asked the Portage City Council to recognize the centennial of Portage becoming a city on 13 February 2007 during the city's Winterfest celebrations. He also asked that

historically designated homes be given a property tax credit of up to \$500 over a ten-year period.

The historic **Portage Hotel** was destroyed by fire on 31 August. The hotel was built in 1905 at a cost of \$50,000. It was state-of-the-art for its time, with a restaurant and bar, and a telephone in each room.

Fort la Reine Museum in **Portage la Prairie** has acquired an antique bell from a Ukrainian Catholic church in Ukraina, northwest of Dauphin. The cast

iron bell is 89 centimetres tall and weighs 582 kilograms with a base diameter of 96.5 inches. The historic bell is in a newly built 3½-metre tower between the Ukrainian church and the old Southport No. 12 building on the museum grounds. The church bell played an important role in traditional Ukrainian communities. The tower was constructed with money raised by Ukrainian Connection, the same organization that paid for the move of the Ukrainian church to the museum grounds in 2002.

There is a theory, proposed by Frank Albo, that the **Manitoba Legislative Building** is modeled after King Solomon's Temple. For those seeking information on this topic or looking for Frank Albo's May 2006 update on his theory, connect to www.manitoba-eh.ca/Tell-Us-Manitoba-Legislative.htm. MHS member Paul Armstrong is conducting free tours, by appointment, relating to this theory. His email address is paul-armstrong@mts.net.

James H. Ashdown and Dr. Henry Friesen have been named to the **Winnipeg Citizen's Hall of Fame**. James Ashdown (1844-1924) came to Winnipeg in 1868 where he established a hardware store the next year. His business expanded into a major wholesale and retail operation. He was an original member of the Winnipeg Board of Trade and was mayor in 1907 and 1908. Dr. Henry Friesen has been honoured recently by the Canadian Medical Association for his medical research. He is still engaged in research. The busts of James H. Ashdown and Dr. Henry Friesen will join other members of the hall of fame in the Assiniboine Park. The Citizen's Hall of Fame is sponsored by a partnership of the MHS and the Winnipeg Real Estate Board, funded by the Winnipeg Foundation.

The *Beausejour Review* reports that **Cook's Creek Heritage Museum** held its Annual Heritage Day on 27 August. The day began with mass in the museum's church. After the service, people toured the main building and the chapel, visited the shrine and market stalls, and viewed the harvest wagon, blacksmith's shop and the tractors. Opening ceremonies were followed by musical entertainment, dancers and clowns. There were demonstrations of bread baking in the clay oven, loom weaving and chainsaw carving. Money raised from Heritage Day is used to defray some of the costs of running the museum.

On 24 October, the Government of Manitoba held a public reception in the Legislative Building to recognize Women's History Month.

The Winnipeg Public Library will present three special Remembrance Day programs:

Camp Hughes

*1 November at 7:00 pm in the
Carol Shields Auditorium at the Millennium
Library*

Camp Hughes was established in 1909 as a training camp for artillery, infantry and cavalry units. Many of the 38,000 soldiers who trained at Camp Hughes were present at the successful assault on Vimy Ridge in 1917. Historian Bruce Tascona is the author of four Regimental history books. Specializing in the military history of Manitoba, he currently serves as President and Archivist of the Military History Society of Manitoba.

Passchendaele

*7 November at 7:00 pm in the Carol Shields
Auditorium at the Millennium Library*

In October 1917, the small Belgian village of Passchendaele became the focus of one of the most gruelling and bloody battles of World War I. Chief Warrant Officer Hugh O'Donnell will discuss the role and actions of the 43rd Battalion (Cameron Highlanders of Canada) Canadian Expeditionary Force during the First World War at the Battle of Passchendaele. The presentation will feature several images and maps of the Battle of the Mud.

Book Reading

*10 November at 2:00 pm at the Millennium
Library, 251 Donald Street*

On the eve of Remembrance Day, local author Peter Anton will read from his book *A Life of Hope: Memoirs of Nadia the Survivor*, which tells the tragic story of his mother in Ukraine from the 1930s famine to the German occupation of the Soviet Union during the Second World War. The author's mother Nadia Muntian will be present. A question period will follow.

Zuken Memorial Ceremony

Major donors for our Joe Zuken plaque project included the Manitoba Heritage Grants Program, the Winnipeg Foundation, the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba, City of Winnipeg Per Capita Grants, Federal Canada Day Grant, and the Canadian Union of Public Employees. We reiterate our thanks for this generous support.



A large crowd attended the unveiling of a plaque commemorating Joe Zuken on Canada Day 2006, where Neil Cohen, chair of the Zuken Memorial Association, thanked the project donors.

Correction

The last issue of *Time Lines* misspelled the surname of Dauphin-born WWI flying ace, **Billy Barker**, who received a Victoria Cross and became Canada's most decorated soldier after a historic air battle in 1918. His statue was unveiled in the Dauphin City Hall Courtyard on 26 July.

Welcome New Members

Victoria Lehman
Spencer Douglas
Anne Dunlop

Donations and Contributions Thank You !

MHS General Operations

Fr. S. C. Sharman
Margaret Carter
Shirley Bradshaw
Victoria Lehman

Centennial Farm Program

Corinne Tellier
Lee Treilhard

Visitors' Centre Building Fund

Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP

Centennial Farms

The following Centennial Farms have been designated since the last *Time Lines*. Those marked with asterisks were listed in a previous issue and are included here with corrections.

Arborg	Herman Skulason	S½ of S½ 35-22-3 EPM 1903
Darlingford	Phyllis (Neighbour) & Dale Dudgeon, Gilbert Dudgeon	E 8-3-11 WPM 1904
Dauphin	Mary Durston	NW 13-24-19 WPM 1898
Gilbert Plains	Harvey & Linda Bassett	W 3-24-22 WPM 1897
Gimli	Tillie Golko, Ken & Jean Golko	SE 23-21-3 EPM 1906
Malonton	Joyce (Klochko) & Dennis Dziadek	NW 19-18-3 EPM 1901
Pipestone	Robert G. Forder	SE 17-7-26 1906
Lauder*	Terry & Cindy Wilkinson	SE 21-5-26 WPM 1900, SW 21-5-26 WPM 1901
Rosburn*	Ethel Brown, Robert J. Brown Warren E. Brown Florence J. (Brown) Mackenzie	NW 23-19-24 WPM 1893
Toutes Aides*	Clement & Lesley Bretecher	W 22-29-15 1906

MHS History Book Club

The Book Club meets from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the locations indicated below. All are welcome to attend.

20 November Marg Kentner will lead the discussion on Paul Chiasson's book *Island of the Seven Cities* at the Dalnavert Visitors' Centre.

17 January 2007 Lee Treilhard will lead a discussion on Gabrielle Roy at the Gabrielle Roy House, 375 rue Deschambault in St. Boniface

Calendar of Events

- 1 November** Camp Hughes presentation at the Millennium Library, 7:00 pm
- 7 November** Passchendaele presentation at the Millennium Library, 7:00 pm
- 10 November** Peter Anton's reading on Ukrainian famine and German Occupation at the Millennium Library, 2:00 pm
- 12 November** Young Historians Awards presented at the Grant Park School Auditorium, 2:00 pm
- 18 November** Joint event with the Manitoba Living History Society at the Dalnavert Visitors Centre
- 20 November** History Book Club at the Dalnavert Visitors Centre, 7:00 pm
- 25 November** Heritage Needle Arts Fair at the Dalnavert Visitors Centre, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
- 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22 December** Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol performed by Richard Hurst at the Dalnavert Visitors Centre, 7:30 pm
- 2007
- 17 January** History Book Club at the Gabrielle Roy House, 375 rue Deschambault, 7:00 pm
- 20 January** Sir John A. Macdonald Anniversary Dinner at the Fort Garry Hotel, 6:00 pm



Some items available for sale at the Dalnavert Gift Shop.

Important Reminders

- Please check the expiry date shown on the mailing label of your newsletter and renew your membership when due. Renewal can be made by mail, by phone, or by a visit to the MHS office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 1:00 to 5:00 pm. Payment may be made by cash, cheque, Visa or Mastercard.
- Your donations are needed to support the ongoing work of the Manitoba Historical Society. Tax receipts are issued.

Back Issues

Back issues of *Times Lines* can be viewed on the MHS web site at www.mhs.mb.ca/info/pubs/timelines/index.shtml.

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Membership fees for the Manitoba Historical Society are: Individual \$40, Family \$45, Youth/Student \$20, Non-profit Institution \$50, Corporations \$275 and Life \$575. Rates to USA and other countries are slightly higher. Two and three year memberships in the individual and family categories are available at a reduction. See the MHS web site for details.

Manitoba Historical Society, est 1879

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